

Please add new claims 21 and 22.

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Claim 21. A compound according to claim *8* which is N-[4[3-(4-fluorobenzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxyphenoxy]-3,5-dimethylphenyl]oxamic acid; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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Claim 22. A compound according to claim *9* which is N-[4[3-(4-fluorobenzenesulfonyl)-4-hydroxyphenoxy]-3,5-dimethylphenyl]oxamic acid.

REMARKS

Examination of the above-identified application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8, 10, 13 and 15 have been cancelled, claim 9 has been made independent, claims 11, 12, 14 and 16-18 have been amended for proper dependency, and claims 21 and 22 have been added to more particularly claim the invention.

The claimed subject matter has been limited to instant claim 9 and claims 11, 12, 14, and 16-22 dependent therefrom without prejudice of Applicant's rights to any cancelled subject matter.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant claims are fully supported by the enabling disclosure, e.g. on pages 23 (first full paragraph), page 31 (example 26), as well as the original claims.

The Examiner's attention is directed to the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith, namely to International Application WO 00/51971 published September 8, 2000, in particular page 13 (lines 29 and 30) and page 118 (lines 40, 41) in which the compound of instant claim 22 is named.

Since the instant application was filed March 23, 2000 (with priority date of March 29, 1999) said published application WO 00/51971 is believed not to be available as a reference against the instant application. Furthermore, it has been noted that the above-cited compound is absent from U.S. provisional application No. 60/122,292 filed March 1, 1999, the priority application cited in published international application WO 00/51971. In view thereof it is respectfully submitted that its March 1, 1999 filing date is not effective with respect to any of the subject matter of the instant amended claims. A copy of said U.S. priority application No. 60/122,292 is enclosed with the attached Information Disclosure Statement for the Examiner's convenience.

In contradistinction thereto, the instant claims are fully supported by U.S. Application No. 60/183,030 filed March 29, 1999 (which was converted from Application No. 09/280,105), e.g. on page 24 (first full paragraph) and page 31 (example 25), as well as the original claims therein, the benefit of which is claimed in the instant application.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant amended claims are in condition for allowance and such is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporation
Patent and Trademark Dept.
564 Morris Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901-1027
(908) 522-6926

Norbert Gruenfeld ✓
Norbert Gruenfeld
Agent for Applicant
Reg. No. 30,061

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Encl: Information Disclosure Statement